

1-1 By: Lucio S.B. No. 591
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed January 24, 2017; February 8, 2017,
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Veteran Affairs &
 1-4 Border Security; April 24, 2017, reported adversely, with
 1-5 favorable Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 6,
 1-6 Nays 0; April 24, 2017, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12			X	
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			

1-16 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 591 By: Lucio

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to a community outreach campaign to increase awareness of
 1-20 veterans benefits and services.

1-21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-22 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 434, Government Code, is
 1-23 amended by adding Section 434.024 to read as follows:

1-24 Sec. 434.024. VETERANS COMMUNITY OUTREACH CAMPAIGN.

1-25 (a) The Texas Veterans Commission shall conduct a community
 1-26 outreach campaign to provide information relating to and increase
 1-27 awareness of benefits and services available to veterans,
 1-28 including:

1-29 (1) claims assistance services;

1-30 (2) technology services, including the veterans
 1-31 website under Section 434.102;

1-32 (3) health, financial, rehabilitation, and housing
 1-33 services;

1-34 (4) employment and reemployment services;

1-35 (5) legal services, including the veterans treatment
 1-36 court program under Chapter 124;

1-37 (6) state and federal education benefits;

1-38 (7) grants available to veterans;

1-39 (8) entrepreneurial services under Section 434.022;

1-40 and
 1-41 (9) mental health services.

1-42 (b) The community outreach campaign must include outreach
 1-43 efforts at:

1-44 (1) community centers;

1-45 (2) places of worship; and

1-46 (3) any other place in a community where veterans
 1-47 routinely gather, as determined by the commission.

1-48 (c) The commission shall collaborate with, and may contract
 1-49 with, community-based, nonprofit, or private organizations to
 1-50 implement the community outreach campaign under this section.

1-51 (d) The commission may solicit and accept gifts and grants
 1-52 to fund the community outreach campaign under this section.

1-53 SECTION 2. Not later than November 1, 2018, the Texas
 1-54 Veterans Commission shall establish the veterans community
 1-55 outreach campaign as required under Section 434.024, Government
 1-56 Code, as added by this Act, and shall adopt any rules necessary to
 1-57 implement the campaign.

1-58 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

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